
きっと恋に違いない
KITTO KOINI CHIGAINAI
西田東

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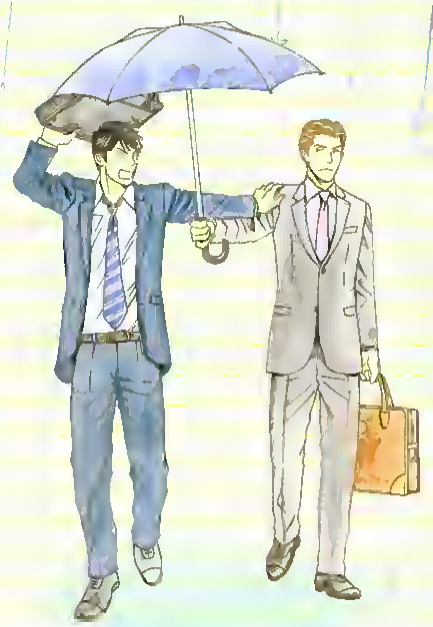
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"I happened across a file with pictures of myself saved on Makino's laptop. And come to think of it, I was the only one who he gave a travel souvenir to. Does he like me, by any chance?" And so began Sasaki's confusing days.
In addition to the two-part title series, an elite bureaucrat who has strayed off course from love is forced to perform in a gay adult video, and discovers that a hidden desire can be drawn out when "your best expression" is recorded



西田東

Contains two stories
with salaryman and
bureaucrat protagonists!
Please enjoy!





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いつまでも
いっしょだよ

きっと恋に違いない

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CONTENTS

It's Almost Like Love 3

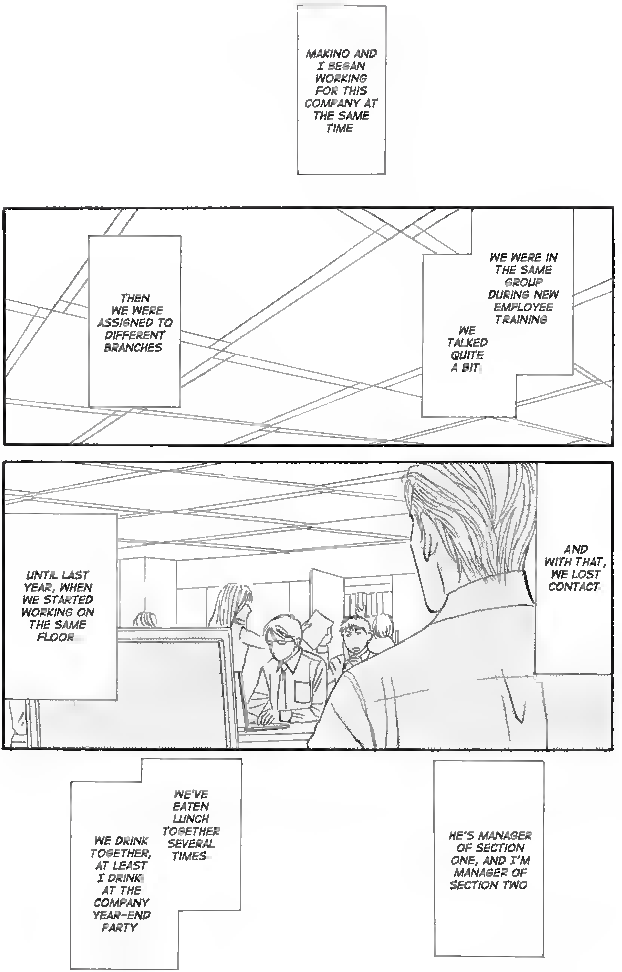
This Must be Falling in Love 43

Your Best Expression 85

Mongo Extras 165

Afterword 167




MAKINO AND I BEGAN WORKING FOR THIS COMPANY AT THE SAME TIME
THEN WE WERE ASSIGNED TO DIFFERENT BRANCHES
WE WERE IN THE SAME GROUP DURING NEW EMPLOYEE TRAINING
WE TALKED QUITE A BIT
UNTIL LAST YEAR, WHEN WE STARTED WORKING ON THE SAME FLOOR
AND WITH THAT, WE LOST CONTACT
WE'VE EATEN LUNCH TOGETHER SEVERAL TIMES
WE DRINK TOGETHER, AT LEAST I DRINK AT THE COMPANY YEAR-END PARTY
HE'S MANAGER OF SECTION ONE, AND I'M MANAGER OF SECTION TWO


I'M JUST ASTOUNDED AT WHAT HE SOMEHOW COLLECTED
WAIT
WHY THIS THOROUGH RETROSPECTION OVER A COLLEAGUE I SEE EVERY DAY?
WHERE DID HE FIND THEM ALL?
THESE

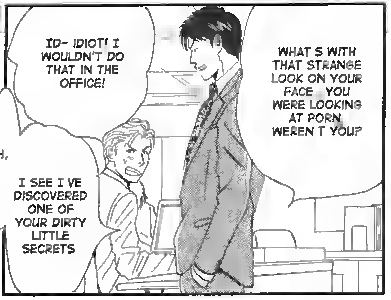

CHIEF
HUH?
CHIEF SASAKI!

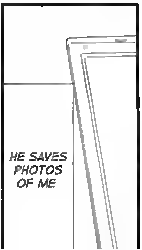

I BORROWED IT FROM MAKINO
WHAT? IT'S ALREADY BEING REPAIRED?
THEN, WHAT'S THIS LAPTOP?
I BROUGHT IT IN MYSELF.
N-, UH, THAT'S ALRIGHT.
UH.
EXCUSE ME, ARE YOU IN THE MIDDLE OF SOMETHING?
I'M FROM IT
I HEAR YOUR LAPTOP HAS A PROBLEM
SHALL I TAKE IT?
IT'S JUST...
HE WON'T KNOW ANYONE MESSED WITH IT
OH, THE OTHER MANAGER ISN'T AROUND?
HE'S SCARY, THOUGH. IS IT ALRIGHT FOR YOU TO MESS WITH HIS LAPTOP?
...WHAT'S IN THIS FOLDER?, I WONDERED, AND CLICKED ON IT.
OH, WELCOME BACK, CHIEF.
IT WAS FULL OF PHOTOS OF ME.


HEY, WHO'S MESSING WITH MY-
DID YOU BRING BACK ANY TAKOYAKI? SPECIAL OSAKA TAKOYAKI?
YOU EXPECT ME TO BRING SOMETHING BACK EVERY SINGLE TIME I LEAVE THE OFFICE FOR HALF A DA-
WAIT, WHAT ABOUT MY LAPTOP?
THE MANAGER OF SECTION TWO, CHIEF SASAKI, BORROWED IT FOR A LITTLE WHILE.
<TAKOYAKI: FRIED OCTOPUS DUMPLINGS>
WHAT THE HELL.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING WITH MY LAPTOP?
WHAA!




HUH?
TAKOYAKI GUM
HERE, I FOUND THIS ON MY TRIP.
OH,
IF YOU LOOK ON THE INTERNET, THEY SAY IT TASTES JUST LIKE THE REAL THING
TOSS

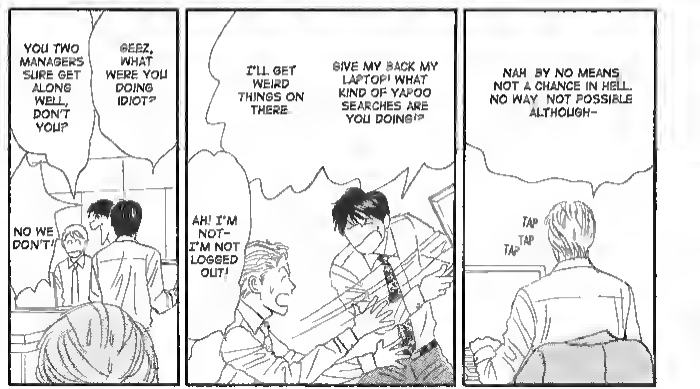

ID- IDIOT! I WOULDN'T DO THAT IN THE OFFICE!
WHAT'S WITH THAT STRANGE LOOK ON YOUR FACE. YOU WERE LOOKING AT PORN, WEREN'T YOU?
I SEE I'VE DISCOVERED ONE OF YOUR DIRTY LITTLE SECRETS


HE SAVES PHOTOS OF ME

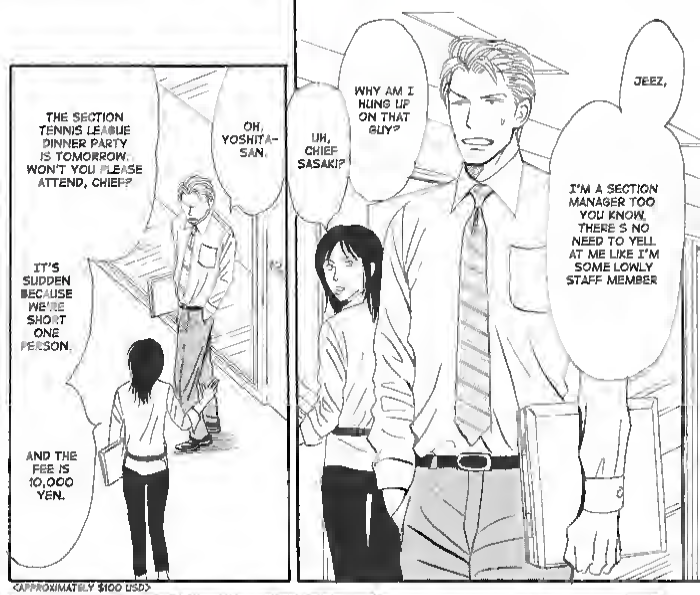

HE EVEN BROUGHT ME A GIFT


FIRST I HAVE TO TAKE A LEAK, THOUGH
THAT'S IN EXCHANGE FOR RETURNING MY LAPTOP
OH, UH, SANKYU

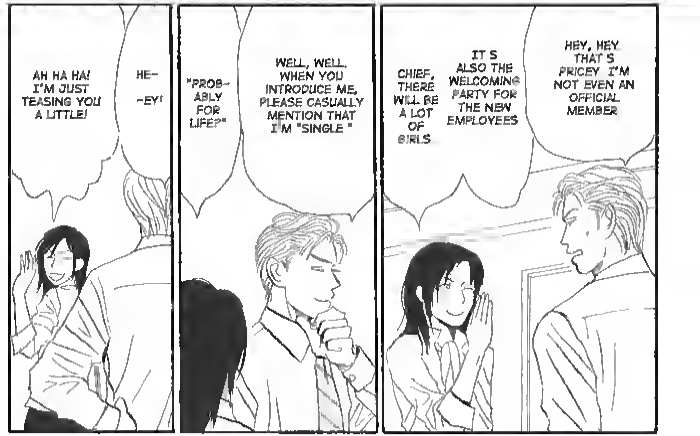

DOES MAKINO... LIKE ME?
This gum is awful!
.....
.....

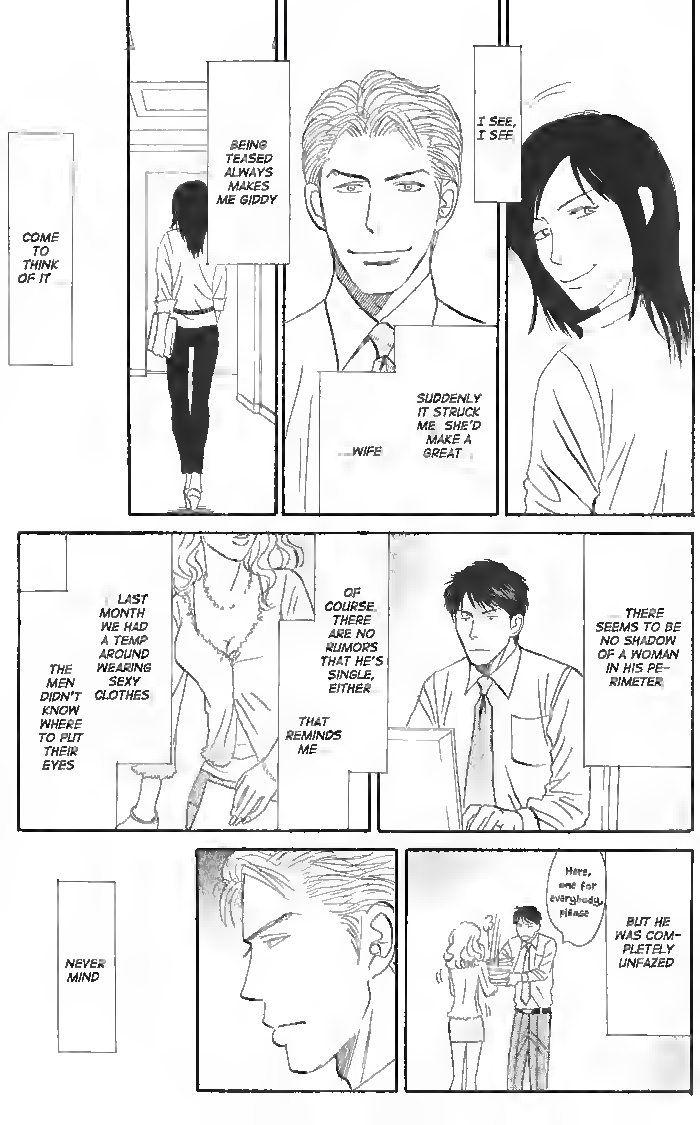

YOU TWO MANAGERS SURE GET ALONG WELL, DON'T YOU?
GEEZ, WHAT WERE YOU DOING IDIOT?
NO WE DON'T!
I'LL GET WEIRD THINGS ON THERE
GIVE MY BACK MY LAPTOP! WHAT KIND OF YAPOO SEARCHES ARE YOU DOING!?
AH! I'M NOT- I'M NOT LOGGED OUT!
NAH BY NO MEANS NOT A CHANCE IN HELL NO WAY NOT POSSIBLE ALTHOUGH-
TAP
TAP
TAP


PAST AGE THIRTY, RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN MEN
IS THERE ANY-THING MORE TO IT THAN THAT?
WE STARTED WORKING FOR THE COMPANY AT THE SAME TIME, AND SINCE OUR SECTIONS ARE NEXT TO EACH OTHER WE INTERACT QUITE A BIT
"NO WE DON'T! THAT'S TRUE
NO WE DON'T.
WHY ARE YOU YOU SAVING PHOTOS OF ME? HAHAHA I MEAN
HOW COULD I PUT IT THAT WOULD SOUND NORMAL?
HOW WOULD I ASK?
AHH I SHOULD ASK HIM ABOUT THE PHOTOS
HAVE TO BE BASED ON SOMETHING SPECIFIC
NOTH-IN6 NOTH-IN6
I SEE YOU SCURRYING AROUND OVER THERE! WHAT'S YOUR PROB-LEM!? SPIT IT OUT!!
ALTHOUGH MAYBE WHAT I SHOULD REALLY ASK HIM IS WHETHER HE LIKES ME
IF MY RHYTHM IS RIGHT MY NONCHA-LANCE WILL SEEM NATURAL..
I'LL WALTZ ON UP VERY SPONTANE-OUSLY LIKE IT'S NOTHING AT ALL..
THIS IS IT I'LL JUST CASUALLY ASK AWAY



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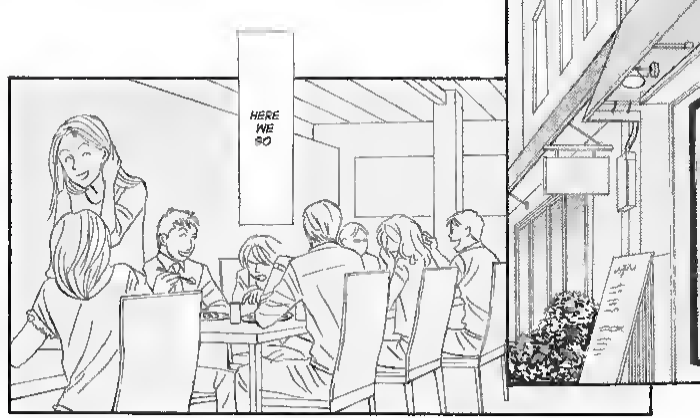


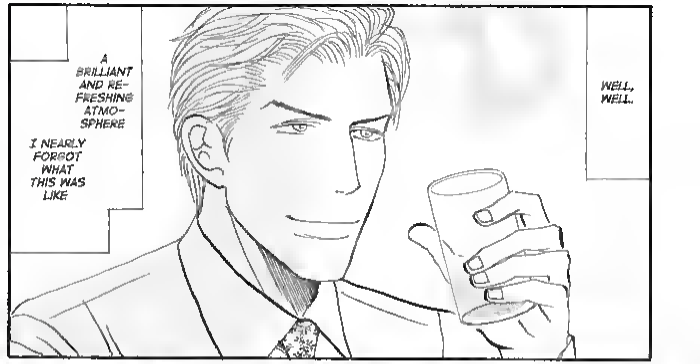

COME TO THINK OF IT
BEING TEASED ALWAYS MAKES ME GIDDY
I SEE, I SEE
SUDDENLY IT STRUCK ME SHE'D MAKE A GREAT
WIFE
THERE SEEMS TO BE NO SHADOW OF A WOMAN IN HIS PERIMETER
OF COURSE THERE ARE NO RUMORS THAT HE'S SINGLE, EITHER
LAST MONTH WE HAD A TEMP AROUND WEARING SEXY CLOTHES
THE MEN DIDN'T KNOW WHERE TO PUT THEIR EYES
THAT REMINDS ME
BUT HE WAS COMPLETELY UNFAZED
Here, one for everybody, please
NEVER MIND


WHAT IS IT!? IF YOU WANT THE SOY SAUCE JUST SAY SO!
AS ALWAYS
GLANCE GLANCE
FUCK OFF! WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING?
WHOA! YOU'RE IN THE BATH-ROOM!
SO I'LL CARRY ON IN A PERFECTLY NATURAL WAY...
EVEN IF HE DOES LIKE ME
I HAVE NO RESPONSE TO THOSE FEELINGS...
OH...
...SHOULD I DOUBLE CHECK THE HOTEL AR-RANGEMENTS FOR OUR TRIP NEXT WEEK?
...STAY-ING OVER-NIGHT. UM
I'LL TAKE A LOOK AT THE TECH SIDE
THAT'S WHERE THEY'RE PICKING US UP
THIS NEW PROJECT IS GIVING ME KU-KOMI... NOW WE HAVE TO REVISE THE BUDGET
STAY-ING OVER-NIGHT. ERR, IN THAT HOTEL TO-GETHER
...ABOUT NEXT WEEK...
< KUKOMI = SEE, WEDGIE, PULLING UP UNDERWEAR INTO THE VULVA >
< KUKOMI = SEE, WEDGIE, PULLING UP UNDERWEAR INTO THE VULVA >



<IN JAPAN, A TWIN ROOM HAS TWIN BEDS, AND A DOUBLE ROOM HAS A DOUBLE (OR LARGER) BED.>


HERE WE GO


A BRILLIANT AND REFRESHING ATMOSPHERE
I NEARLY FORGOT WHAT THIS WAS LIKE
WELL, WELL.


UM, WELL, THE PRESIDENT IS AN ALPACA, RIGHT?
JUST KIDDING, I'M ONLY SAYING THAT TO LIGHTEN UP THE WELCOME FOR THE NEW EMPLOYEES.
HE DEFINITELY EATS FLIES AND STUFF.
HA HA HA, DON'T TELL ME WHAT DEPARTMENT THAT IS.
WOW, SASAKI-SAN, I WISH OUR SECTION MANAGER WAS LIKE YOU.
OUR MANAGER IS A REPTILE.


I DEFINITELY NEED A WOMAN IN HER THIRTIES
THANKS FOR REMINDING ME OF MY AGE.
JUST A SEC...
THANKS CHIEF SASAKI-SAN ANY LUCK WITH YOUR MISSION?
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY YOSHINAGA-SAN GOOD JOB TODAY.
NO WAY I'M AN OLD MAN COMPARED TO THESE NEW EMPLOYEES
MOVING INTO PICKUP MODE?
WELL, I'M NOT MOVING OUT OF IT.
OH MY.
...HOW ABOUT THE TWO OF US HAVE A LITTLE DRINK.
I FEEL THE SAME, THAT'S WHY-
A WOMAN IN HER THIRTIES CAN'T AFFORD TO PLAY AROUND
YOU LIKE SOMEONE, THOUGH
EVEN IF IT'S UNREQUITED
SO I CAN'T WITH YOU


PEOPLE'S HEARTS CAN CHANGE.
IF ONLY YOU WEREN'T SUCH AN ATTRACTIVE MANAGER...
DON'T THINK I WON'T STEAL YOU AWAY
HERE'S HOPING YOU FIND SUCCESS IN LOVE
STAND
WELL, I GUESS IT CAN'T BE HELPED
PEOPLE'S HEARTS CAN'T BE CONTROLLED
I'LL KEEP DOING MY BEST, THANK YOU


HMM
I LEFT THE PARTY EARLY. SO I HAVE SOME TIME TO SPARE
SINCE NEXT WEEK WILL BE BUSY
IT WOULD BE GOOD TO FINISH UP A FEW THINGS AT WORK...
ALL THE DADDIES HAVE GONE HOME BY NOW
NINE O'CLOCK.
I WONDER IF ANYONE ELSE IS HERE.
IT BEATS WATCHING TV ALONE AT HOME.


YEAH, WELL...
...
...I WAS REJECTED BY A WOMAN.
HEY, WHAT-
DIDN'T YOU LEAVE ALREADY?
UH, IT'S A PRIVATE MATTER. THERE'S NO NEED FOR YOU TO SUDDENLY GET INVOLVED
A WOMAN REJECTED YOU?
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO SUDDENLY BROUGHT IT UP
N- NOTHING, NEVER MIND CARRY ON, PLEASE
WHAT!?
UMM...
.....
.....
.....
...LIKE I GIVE A FUCK...


NOT FOR TWO OR THREE YEARS. IT NEVER OCCURRED TO ME TO MENTION IT TO YOU.
NOT NOW.
WHAT!? WHAT!?
WE- WELL, IT'S JUST THAT WE'RE TOGETHER ON A LONELY FRIDAY NIGHT.
ILL-BRED...
WHAT A WAY TO SAY "LONELY."
JUMPING RIGHT INTO MY PRIVATE MATTERS, I SEE.
...DON'T YOU HAVE A GIRL-FRIEND?
<HE SAYS "SAMISHI" INSTEAD OF "SABISHI." IT'S ACCEPTABLE, SO OK, BUT IT MIGHT CONNOTE "HORNY">
SASAKI...
HEY. YOU ALRIGHT? GETTING A COLD?
N- NAH, SOMETHING WENT DOWN THE WRONG WAY.
...THEN MAYBE A BOY-FRIEND...
GULP
SURE. LET'S GO.
I'LL JUST REFUSE
SO THIS IS HOW HE PLANS TO FUCK ME
AND CAN'T DEFEND MY ASS-HOLE?
WHAT WILL HE DO TO ME ONCE I'M DRUNK
DRINK?
DRI-
AFTER WE'RE DONE HERE, SHOULD WE GO GET A DRINK?


JEEZ, YOU SEEMED DOWN AFTER GETTING REJECTED SO I THOUGHT I'D TREAT YOU TO SOMETHING TASTY, BUT...
SHUT UP! I DON'T DRINK AND THE CAKES ARE GOOD HERE
WHAT THE HELL, TEAP TWO GROWN MEN HAVING TEA AND CAKE?"
I MEAN WE CAN'T JUST GO FOR A NORMAL DRINK!"
DA-
DAMN IT, SOMEHOW I WAS EAGER TO AGREE
SO...
ROUGH AND BLUNT, BUT A NICE GUY
I'VE ALWAYS KNOWN THAT HE'S A NICE GUY
WHAT A NICE GUY
I SEE
SOME-TIMES YOU REALLY
WHAT THE THAT'S A HELL OF A QUESTION TO ASK WHEN A PERSON IS EATING
SO WITHOUT A LOVER, YOU YOU KNOW, DO IT YOUR-SELF?"


I CAN WIPE THAT OFF BY MYSELF.
WHAT? HEY!
...WHAT, ARE YOU IN MIDDLE SCHOOL? JEEZ.
HE'LL BE EMBAR-RASSED...
...WHEN I WIPE OFF THIS CREAM STUCK TO HIS CHIN.
HE-HEY
LOOKS THAT WAY
WHAT? WE'RE LEAVING ALREADY?
WELL.
SHALL WE GO?

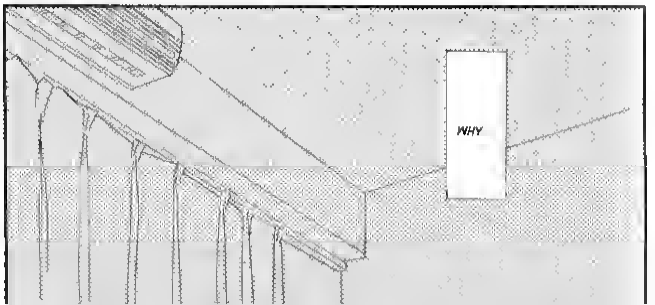

WALKING THROUGH THE STREETS TOGETHER LIKE THIS ISN'T BAD.
WHAT IS THIS?
WHAT THE HELL IS THIS FEELING?
FOR NOW, AT LEAST...


WELCOME TO THE "DO IT YOURSELF" CLUB
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT,
I'LL BE FINE.
I BET YOU CAN FIND OTHER WOMEN TO LOVE YOU.
HOW ABOUT A CALL GIRL FOR FUN?
I CAN HELP I KNOW SOMEONE SHADY
EVEN IN OUR OLD TRAINING DAYS
I WAS ALWAYS YOUR MAIN SUPPORT WHEN YOU MESSED UP
I'M NICE TO UNDERDOGS


THIS IS MY STATION.
PAT
HANG IN THERE.
THERE MUST BE SOMEBODY, SOMEWHERE FOR YOU
WHAT?
GOOD WORK TODAY!



WHAT WAS THAT?



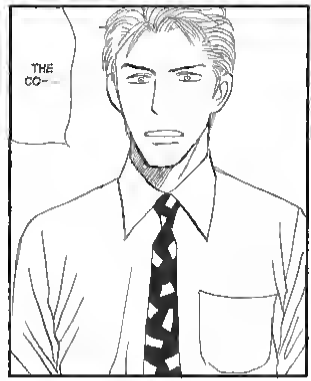

DO I
I
HOW DID I END UP LIKE THIS?
WHY

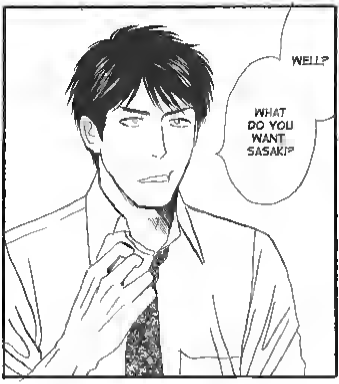

MORNING.
GOOD MORNING.
WHY DO I FEEL LIKE I CAN'T WAIT FOR MONDAY?
...ALMOST LIKE WHAT?
IT'S ALMOST LIKE...
A CHOO
OH...
HEY, HELLO THERE.
I WAS SO IMPATIENT THAT I COULDN'T SLEEP A WINK.
UH...
I DON'T KNOW
ANYWAY, I NEED SOME COFFEE.

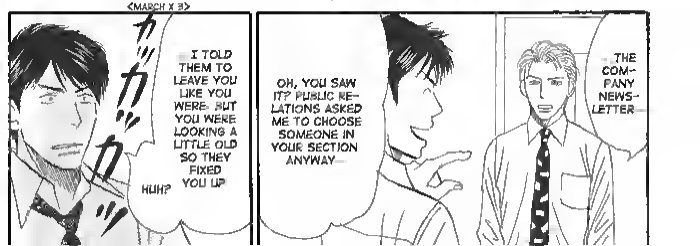

WHAT THE HELL IS THAT?
WELL, SORRY BUT YOU AREN'T LIKE-
N- NO, NEVER MIND THANKS
SHH!
UHH
UMM
HUH? THAT'S ME
WHERE CAN WE FIND CHIEF SASAKI FROM SECTION TWO?
WHAT?
YOU'RE FEATURED IN THE COMPANY INTERNET NEWSLETTER THIS MONTH, CHIEF SASAKI
AND, AND
OH CHIEF CHECK IT OUT!
WHAT IS IT? WHY IS EVERYONE SO WORKED UP?
WHAT THE HELL IS THAT!?
CHIEF, YOU CAN USE THIS AS A MATCHMAKING PHOTO!
THIS WEEK'S IKEMEN CORNER
YOU'VE BEEN PHOTOSHOPPED INTO AN EXTRA LARGE SERVING OF IKEMEN!
LOOK AT THOSE LOOONG LEGS
IKEMEN = COOL, SEXY, GOOD-LOOKING GUY


UH...
UM...
WHERE IS HE?
HUH? WH-WHO...?
...MAKINO.
MAKINO
WHERE IS HE RIGHT NOW?


HEY, I'M EATING LUNCH HERE.
<SLAM>


THE CO—

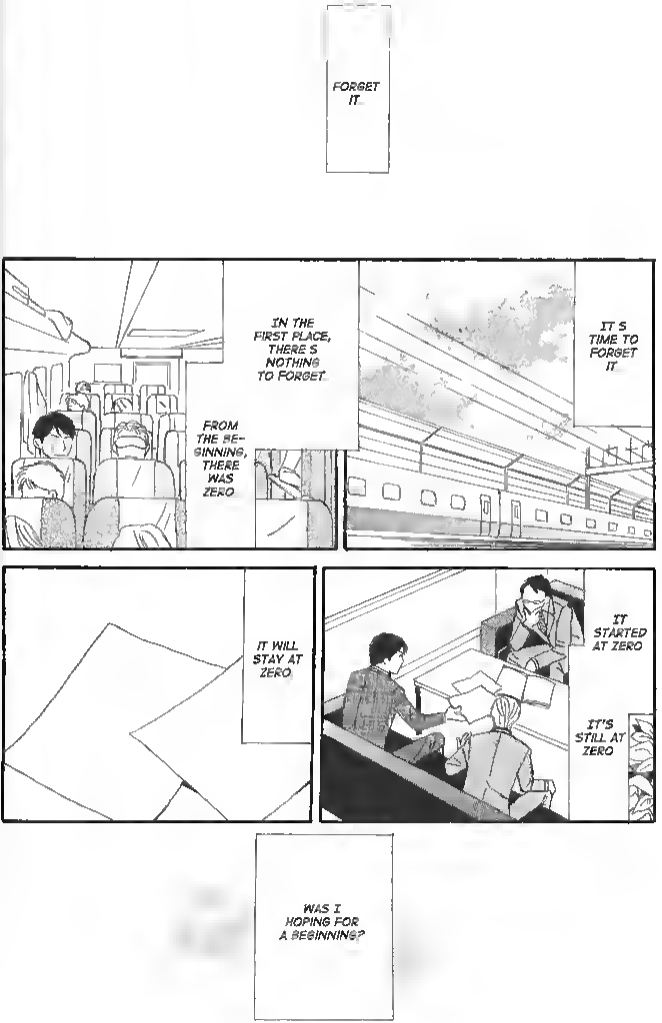

WELL?
WHAT DO YOU WANT SASAKI?


<MARCH X 3>
I TOLD THEM TO LEAVE YOU LIKE YOU WERE. BUT YOU WERE LOOKING A LITTLE OLD SO THEY FIXED YOU UP.
HUH?
OH, YOU SAW IT? PUBLIC RELATIONS ASKED ME TO CHOOSE SOMEONE IN YOUR SECTION ANYWAY—
THE COMPANY NEWSLETTER—


SCATTER
SHOCK
HEY...
WAIT!


.....
WHY ARE YOU SO ANGRY!?
I'M SORRY I DIDN'T TELL YOU ABOUT IT, BUT-
SHUT UP! LET ME GO!
LET ME-
I'LL GET GOING
IT'S ALRIGHT I'M NOT ANGRY ABOUT THAT
I HAD SOME-HOW...
SORRY DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT


PLEASE.
JUST FOR TODAY, LEAVE ME ALONE.
I MEAN IT.
THEN...
DON'T COME AFTER ME.
CLOSE


FORGET IT.
IN THE FIRST PLACE, THERE S NOTHING TO FORGET.
FROM THE BE- GINNING, THERE WAS ZERO.
IT S TIME TO FORGET IT.
IT WILL STAY AT ZERO.
IT STARTED AT ZERO
IT'S STILL AT ZERO
WAS I HOPING FOR A BEGINNING?

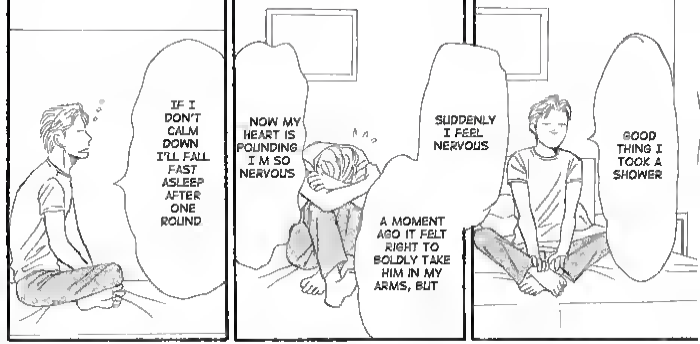

RIGHT AFTER THAT, WE LEFT ON OUR TOUGH BUSINESS TRIP.
WOULD IT BE EASIER IF I WAS ON MY OWN?
WHATEVER. AT LEAST WE HAVE SEPARATE ROOMS
TOMOR-ROW, WE VISIT THAT COMPANY ONE MORE TIME, THEN WE GO HOME.
KNOCK
KNOCK
IT'S ME.
WH-- WHAT IS IT?
OPEN THE DOOR A LITTLE.
N- NO, I JUST TOOK A SHOWER.
I'LL WAIT FOR YOU TO PUT ON SOME CLOTHES.
THAT'S RIGHT.
HE ISN'T A HOMO, IS HE.
WEIRD BEHAVIOR LIKE THAT WOULD BE A PROBLEM AT WORK, AND PREVENT HIM FROM HAVING CHILDREN.
OPEN
HEY.
WHAT IS IT, MAKINO?


WHY NOT?
WAIT, COME ON, DON'T CLOSE IT.
WHY ARE YOU AVOIDING ME?
...I'LL SEE YOU TOMORROW. I DON'T FEEL LIKE TALKING TONIGHT.
HEY, HEY, HEY, SORRY, TOMOR-ROW....
LOOK OUT!
OOPS!
HEY!
WHOA!
<SHOVE>
<FALL>

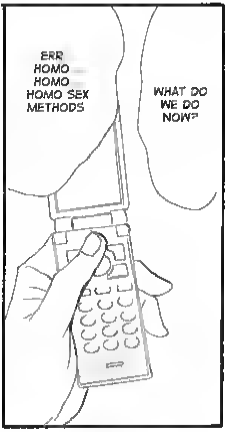

I'M BEG-GING YOU.
DO-
DON'T RUN AWAY, PLEASE
YOU HAVE BEEN AVOID-ING ME
MAKING...
YOU

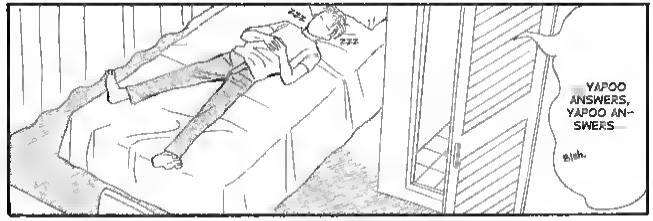

I KNEW YOU WERE A HOMO
WHAT!?
WHAT!?
NOW WHY WOULD YOU THINK THAT? NO I M-
TH- THAT SORT OF THING, ARE YOU KIDDING? NO, WAIT JUST A-
MAKINO I...
LATELY YOU'RE ALL I CAN THINK ABOUT
HOW THE HELL DID THIS HAPPEN?
SAME WITH ME
YOU'RE ADORABLE PRECIOUS
YOU'RE NOT GETTING AWAY


I'LL CHASE YOU DOWN CATCH YOU...
...I'VE WANTED THIS FOR A LONG TIME
MAKING... WHOA OOPS
WOW. WE REALLY DID
..SOME-HOW WE ENDED UP ON THIS BED
I'LL GET USED TO IT,
BUT I'M DIZZY JUST FROM YOUR ARMS AROUND ME
HUH?
WELL, I MUST ADMIT
YOU'RE ACTUALLY QUITE A LADY-KILLER. OR, MAN-KILLER. I SHOULD SAY.
I'LL LEAVE IT TO YOU.
UHH...
BE GENTLE..
.....
OH...
HANG ON, I HAVE TO GO TO THE BATH-ROOM


IF I DON'T CALM DOWN I'LL FALL FAST ASLEEP AFTER ONE ROUND
NOW MY HEART IS POUNDING I M SO NERVOUS
A MOMENT AGO IT FELT RIGHT TO BOLDLY TAKE HIM IN MY ARMS, BUT
SUDDENLY I FEEL NERVOUS
GOOD THING I TOOK A SHOWER

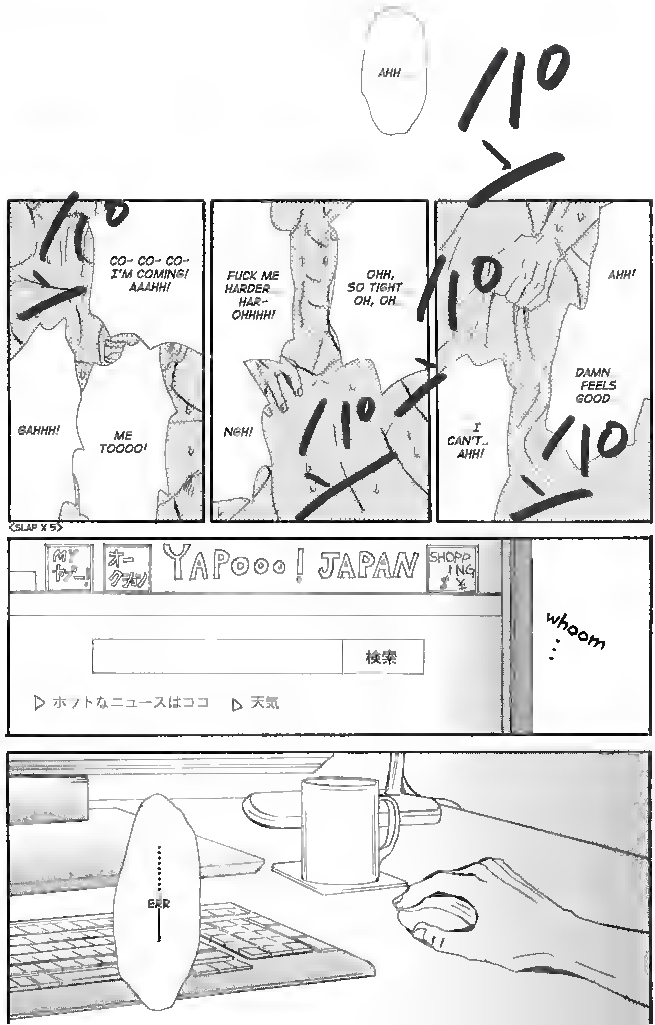

LUBE?
I'LL GET SOME
WHAT'S NEXT? HEY—
THAT SON OF A BITCH DOESN'T HAVE ANY EXPERIENCE WITH MEN
BUT I DON'T WANT OUR FIRST TIME TO BE ABSOLUTELY MORTIFYING
I'D LIKE HIM TO THINK I'M AN EXPERT TECHNICIAN


ERR HOMO— HOMO HOMO SEX METHODS
WHAT DO WE DO NOW?

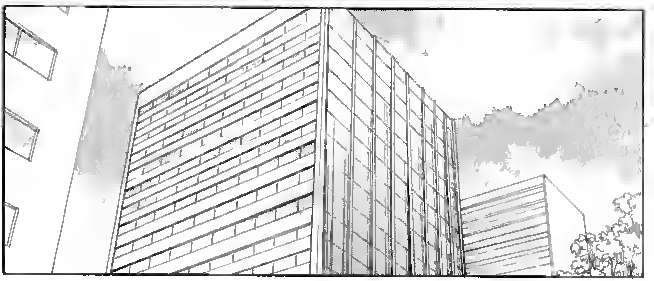

ZZZ
ZZZ
YAPOO ANSWERS, YAPOO ANSWERS—
Blah.

END




AHH
110
CO- CO- CO-
I'M COMING!
AAHH!
GAHHH!
ME
TOOOO!
FUCK ME
HARDER
HAR-
OHHHH!
OHH,
SO TIGHT
OH, OH
NGH!
AHH!
DAMN
FEELS
GOOD
I
CAN'T..
AHH!
<SLAP X 5>
YAPooo! JAPAN
SHOPP
ING
検索
ホットなニュースはココ
天気
whoom
BEER


ERR




HMM


WHAT WAS I
LOOKING FOR?
IT SEEMS I STILL FEEL ANXIOUS
I'M IN "KINDA TIRED" MODE
I GIVE UP.
FINALLY I M IN "GOOD MOOD" MODE
OH, THERE'S THAT MECHANICAL PENCIL I COULDN'T FIND. I MUST HAVE STUCK IT IN MY POCKET
HUH?


CHIEF SASAKI!
ERR... JACKET, JACKET...
HUH?
OH.
TH-THANKS.
SOMEONE FROM THE SUZUKI CORPORATION IS HERE TO SEE YOU.
WE'RE SERVING THEM SNACKS IN THE RECEPTION ROOM.
MAKINO WANT TO GO TOGETHER?
IT'S THE SUZUKI CORPORATION.


OK.
I'LL GIVE YOU A CONCISE SUM-MARY.
UH...I CAN'T.
I'M GETTING READY FOR A MEETING TOMOR-ROW.
TELL ME ABOUT IT AFTER-WARDS.
IT'S DIFFICULT
WE CAN'T GO BACK TO THE WAY THINGS WERE BEFORE
AND...
...WHEN I WOKE UP, THE DREAM WAS OVER
WHAT ARE YOU DOING SLEEPING ON THE TOILET?
AT DAWN, AFTER THAT NIGHT ONE WEEK AGO...
...I'M NOT SURE HOW TO GO FORWARD


HE ISN'T ACTING STRANGE, BUT
...MY...
EVEN IF HE THOUGHT SO MOMENTARILY, AT LEAST HE DOESN'T SEEM DIFFERENT THAN BEFORE.
THANK YOU.
THINKING ABOUT IT WITH A COOL HEAD, I DOUBT HE'S EVEN A HOMO.
HE'S OVER HIS DELUSION.
I'LL BRING TEA.
...HE'S DONE SOMETHING TO MY FEELINGS.
<TURN>
MAKI-NO!!
<SLAM>
WHAT
WHAT IS IT?
<MARCH X 5>


ALRIGHT.
TAMURA, SORRY, CAN YOU GET THAT?
.....
WHAT IS IT, SASAKI?
YOU-
RIING
RIING
I I HAVE A COUPON SO...
WAI- WAIT SASAKI...
UH, PUT HIM ON HOLD
IT'S CHIEF OKAZAKI FROM DEVEL-- OPMENT ON LINE TWO. DO YOU WANT TO CALL HIM BACK?
UH NEVER MIND NOTHING, IT'S NO BIG DEAL.
I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT I WENT OVER THERE TO SAY
SO
SHOULD WE HAVE DINNER TONIGHT?


YOU....
...WHICHEVER WAY IT GOES, MAYBE WE CAN CLEAR THINGS UP TONIGHT.
I'LL SPEAK FRANKLY.
NAH, THAT'S NOT FAIR.
I SHOULDN'T PREPARE WHAT TO SAY IN ADVANCE.
...WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THAT NIGHT?
OHH JOSEPHINE THAT MY SPIRIT CAN TREMBLE SO
OH, EXCUSE ME, CARRY ON, ONIISAN
...SHIT, I CAN'T REMEMPER MY LINES FOR THIS PLAY...
CRYING OR BEING ANGRY WON'T DO AT ALL WHEN YOU'RE IN MY ARMS
I WANT TO SEE YOU SMILE
CHOO!
I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT WILL COME OUT
BUT THIS MUCH I'LL SAY FOR SURE
カツ
<PACE>


I'M MEETING A FRIEND HERE
AH, THERE HE IS
THAT GUY IS LATE... HE MUST BE HELD UP AT WORK...
BUT THAT'S HOW I USUALLY BEGIN MY RELATIONSHIPS WITH GIRLS.
I WASN'T SAYING THOSE LINES ABOUT A WOMAN.
MY OWN FEELINGS ARE CLEAR
BUT AS FOR HIM, I CAN TELL JUST BY LOOKING AT HIM—
...THAT IT ISN'T LOVE


SIZZLE
SIZZLE
MAKINO?
EAT SOME MORE.
YEAH?
AFTER THIS SHOULD WE STOP BY MY PLACE?
OH THAT REMINDS ME...
NUTRITION, NUTRITION.
AFTER ALL, YOU'LL GET TIRED OUT IF YOU DON'T EAT ENOUGH MEAT
YOU HAVE TO SERIOUSLY DIG IN LIKE IT'S A YEAR-END PARTY
ARE YOU HOLDING BACK? THAT'S NOT YOUR STYLE
NO WAY, I DON'T DRINK.
WHAT, I HAVE A STYLE OF EATING?

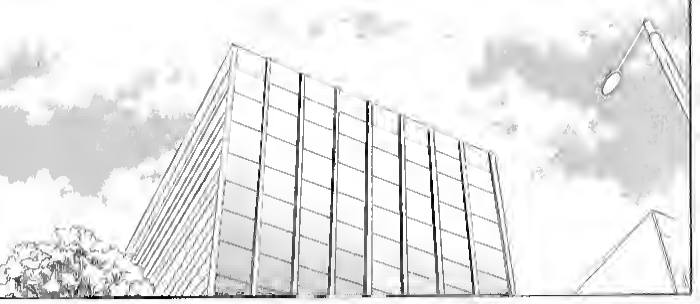

...
WHAT FOR?
<SLIP>
ピキーン
WANT TO?
N-NOTHING. NOTHING. NO PARTICULAR REASON.
IT'S JUST, SOMEONE BROUGHT ME A PILE OF VEGETABLES AND DRIED FISH AND STUFF FROM THE COUNTRY
THERE DOESN'T HAVE TO BE A PARTICULAR REASON FOR GUYS TO HANG OUT.
NOT IN THIS CASE, NOT AT ALL.
ガタン
BUT, I MEAN...
IT'S FINE IF YOU DON'T WANT TO.
<STAND UP>
I NEVER SAID I DIDN'T WANT TO.
LET'S GO TO YOUR PLACE


HE'S
USUALLY SO BLUNT, A GUY WHO LOOKS PEOPLE RIGHT IN THE EYE WHEN HE TALKS TO THEM
STILL, I'M WORRIED ABOUT HIS ATTITUDE
I'M GLAD
HE DOESN'T SEEM TO HATE ME
I WONDER IF IT'S A GOOD IDEA, GOING TO MY PLACE
SOME KIND OF FIRE...
MAYBE HE'S CONFUSED ABOUT HIS FEELINGS.
HEY
YEAH?
I'LL BRING SOMETHING TO DRINK
THE LIVING ROOM IS BACK THERE FIND SOMEWHERE TO SIT
SO THIS IS IT
HE LIGHT'S SOME KIND OF FIRE IN ME


WHAT THE HELL IS UP WITH THIS PLACE?
HUH? WHAT ABOUT IT?
WHAT ABOUT IT? LOOK AT THIS MESS!
YOU SHOULD CALL SOMEONE TO COME IN ON A REGULAR BASIS.
EVEN ON YOUR OWN, IT WOULD MAKE IT MORE RELAXING.
RE-REALLY? SINGLE GUYS DO THAT?
WOW, I CAN'T BELIEVE HOW MUCH LINT HAS ACCUMULATED AROUND HERE!
WHERE'S THE VAQUUM CLEANER?
ガ"
KRAAAH
YOU CAN PUT CURTAINS IN THE LAUNDRY YOU KNOW.
WASHING THEM WILL BRIGHTEN THE WHOLE ROOM.
HOW ABOUT NEWSPAPERS?
I BET YOU HAVE A STACK OF THEM SOMEWHERE, DON'T YOU?


BUT THIS IS TOO MUCH FOR ME
WELL..
HERE YOU GO, MAKINO
I EVEN GROW MUSTARD GREENS ON MY BALCONY
IDIOT, I'VE BEEN LIVING ON MY OWN SINCE COLLEGE. OF COURSE I COOK FOR MYSELF.
WOW
WHY "WOW"...?
SO YOU'RE GIVING ME A TIP
I FEEL BAD THAT YOU CAME OVER AND CLEANED MY PLACE.
MAYBE YOU COOK TOO
I DIDN'T HAVE THE NERVE TO ASK HIM, AFTER ALL...
YEAH
SEE YOU TOMORROW

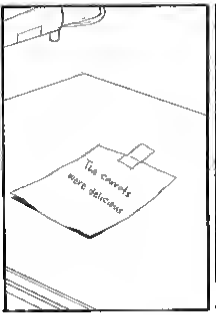

WE MAY NOT BE ABLE TO MOVE FORWARD
BUT MAYBE WE CAN GO BACK TO HOW WE WERE BEFORE
STILL, I GOT TO SEE HIM SMILING LIKE USUAL
IF HE WANTED TO STAY OVER... OR TAKE A SHOWER
<PEOPLE GENERALLY SHOWER BEFORE SEX IN JAPAN>
WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO




WHO'S DEALING WITH NAKANO PRODUCTS?
MAKINO FROM SECTION ONE.
THE MEETING JUST ENDED.
AND MAKINO?
IT SEEMS HE WENT OUT SOMEWHERE WITH THE CLIENTS AFTER THAT.


A GROUP FROM NAKANO PRODUCTS IS PAYING A VISIT.
I LEFT YOU A PHONE MESSAGE.
UGH,
I DIDN'T EXPECT THAT VISIT TO LAST ALL DAY.
ANY-THING I SHOULD KNOW ABOUT?


AHH, NAKANO PRODUCTS


The sweets were delicious


HM?
WHEW, TOO BAD HE'S BUSY TOO
I OWE HIM ONE FOR THAT


WOBBLE
THE DIRECTOR NEEDS...
...THEIR FILE. THEIR FILE!
WELCOME BACK. IT'S SIX O'CLOCK.
...WHOA, I'M IN A HURRY. WHAT TIME IS IT NOW, TIME!?
HA HA
<RUSH x2>
<CRASH>
HAVE YOU BEEN PICKING WILD MUSHROOMS? THEY'RE DELICIOUS BUT YOU CAN'T EAT TOO MANY OF THEM.
IS IT FOOD POISONING?
YOU PEOPLE.
...
...


MAKINO!
RUMBLE
...RIGHT... NOW...
HEY, IF THE DIRECTOR CALLS, TELL HIM I'M HEADING OVER THERE...
I JUST LOST MY BALANCE FOR A SECOND.
SASAKI
.....
I'M HUNGRY
ARE YOU ALRIGHT?

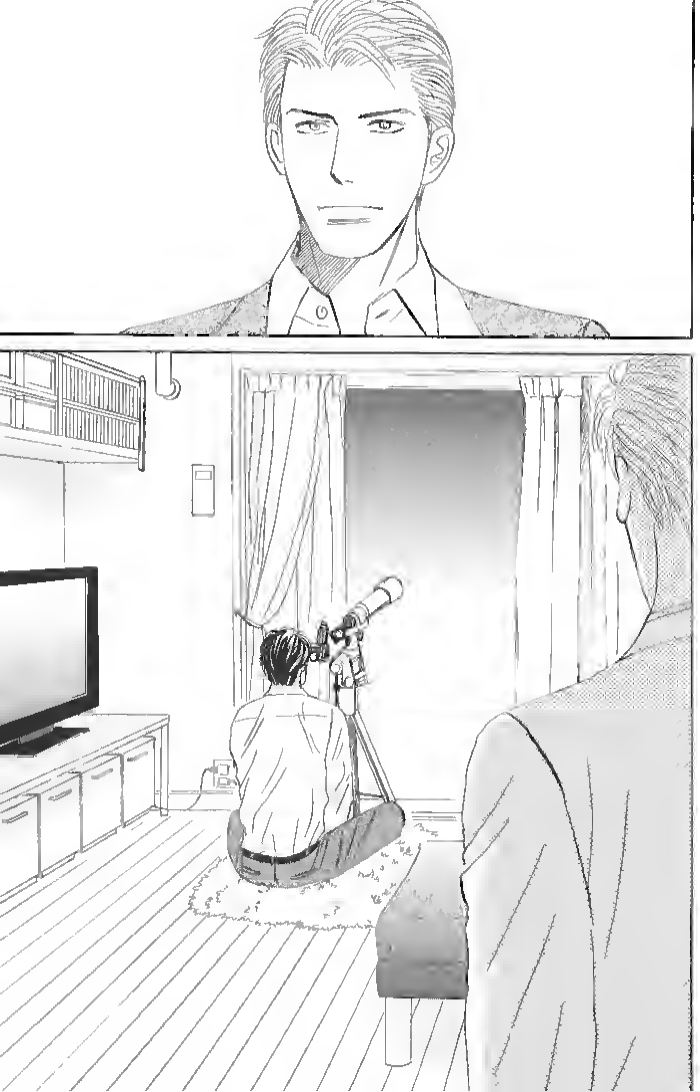

OH, YOU CAN STILL GAIN WEIGHT FROM AN IV
IT'S GREAT THAT YOU CAN'T GAIN WEIGHT FROM IT
I LIKE THE IV
WELL...
..ANEMIA FROM POOR NUTRITION CAUSED YOUR FATIGUE.
SEEMS LIKE IT'S BEEN TOO LONG SINCE YOUR LAST CHECK-UP.
THIS IV WILL GET YOU REINERGIZED
INTERNAL MEDICINE CLINIC ADMISSION
SO NOW YOU WANT TO LOSE WEIGHT LIKE AN OFFICE LADY? WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, THE GYM?
REST WELL. I WONDER IF IT'S TOO LATE TO GO TO THE GYM
IT'S JUST, I'VE SLACKED OFF LATELY... SO MY BELLY'S GETTING FLABBY
ID!-...!
HE SAYS REST WELL, AND COME BACK SOON
I HAVE A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR
OH, SASAKI.
WHAT!? I CAN GAIN WEIGHT FROM AN IV? QUICK TURN IT OFF. I'D RATHER GAIN WEIGHT BY EATING FOOD
NOW, NOW
LISTEN TO YOU WHAT, ARE YOU A CHUBBY OFFICE LADY? GAIN SOME WEIGHT

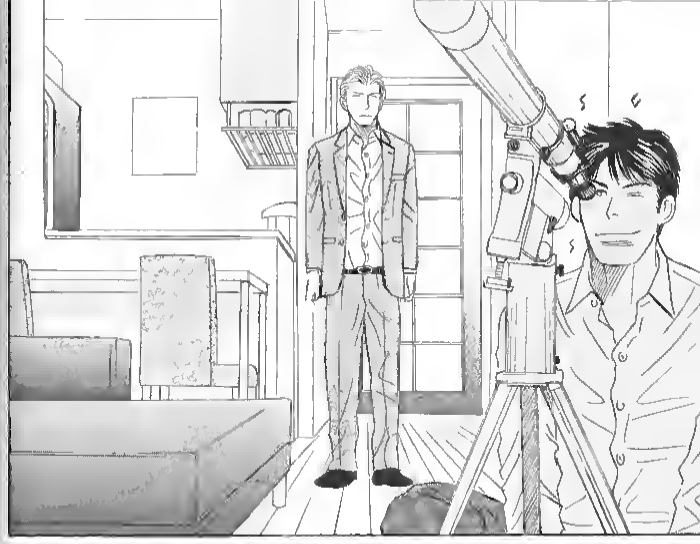

NO. N-
WHAT? DID I ASK YOU TO ENTER A MARATHON?
WHY WERE YOU...
AN IDIOT? WHY WAS I RUNNING AROUND SO FRANTICALLY?
DON'T BE AN IDIOT!
I'LL TAKE YOU HOME
ANYWAY, YOU NEED TO REST A LITTLE MORE BEFORE YOU GO BACK TO WORK
ALRIGHT


OH, RIGHT...
...YOU DO MAKE SURE YOUR APARTMENT IS TIDY.
HUH? WHERE...
I FIGURED OUT WHY YOU DON'T NEED A GIRLFRIEND.
SORRY IF I CRUMPLED YOUR ENTRANCE MAT.
MR. HEATHK
WHAT, WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
WHEN YOU'RE INTO SKIING AND MOTORCYCLES A WOMAN JUST GETS IN THE WAY.
ALL THE BOOKS AND MUSIC
SEEING THIS PLACE IT'S CLEAR YOU HAVE ENOUGH FUN ON YOUR OWN...
...WITH YOUR TELESCOPE AND ALL.

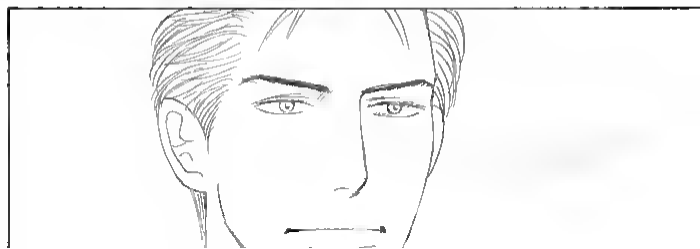

EVEN THOUGH IN HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS WERE ALWAYS SQUEALING AROUND ME
IN THE END IT'S EASIER TO BE ALONE
IT'S TIRING TO WORRY ABOUT SOMEONE ELSE. IT'S A PAIN
SCREAM-ING?
SHUT UP.
I JUST LIKE IT. SPENDING AN HOUR OR TWO LOOKING AT THE STARS.
WHAT DO YOU LOOK AT? IN THE SKY, ALL BY YOUR-SELF.
CERTAINLY THE WOMEN I DATED ALWAYS FOUND IT BORING.
UHH...
WHOOSH
YOU'RE STILL IN BETTER SHAPE THAN ME
I WAS CAPTAIN OF THE BASKET-BALL TEAM IN MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL.
THIS BODY WAS IN GREAT SHAPE
THERE'S MINERAL WATER IN THE FRIDGE
HEY, I THINK I'LL HAVE SOME WATER
EV-EVERY-ONE SAYS SO
IT'S- IT'S JUST- COME ON, YOU'RE UNUSUALLY BUFF FOR A GUY OVER THIRTY. IT'S QUITE ATTRACTIVE


EVERY SINGLE THING
SOME HOW
IT'S TIDY, BUT
WOW HE KEEPS THE FRIDGE TIDY TOO
I WAS CARELESS AND LET SOMETHING WEIRD SPILL OUT OF MY MOUTH
HE'S PRECIOUS
EVERY SINGLE THING THAT GUY HAS IS SEALED UP TIGHT
<CREAK>
<CLOSE>






hmm-
mm
hmm-
mm




MAKINO.
HM?
WOULD IT BE ALRIGHT IF I TOOK A SHOWER?
HUH-


.....
SH-
SHOWER?
BUT
YOU


HEY-


HEY...
WAI-
AHH
<SFX: THUMP>
HANG ON!


MAKI-...!
<PUSH>
<SLIDE>
HUH?
<CLOSE>


TIME OUT!
WAIT
TIME OUT! TIME OUT!
PLEASE!
I CAN'T
NOT YET!
MY HEART
IT'S NOT READY


SLIDE...


UH....
...YEAH.
ME TOO.
I...
...LOVE YOU.
LET S LOOK AT THE STARS
OUT HERE
TO-GETHER
ALRIGHT.

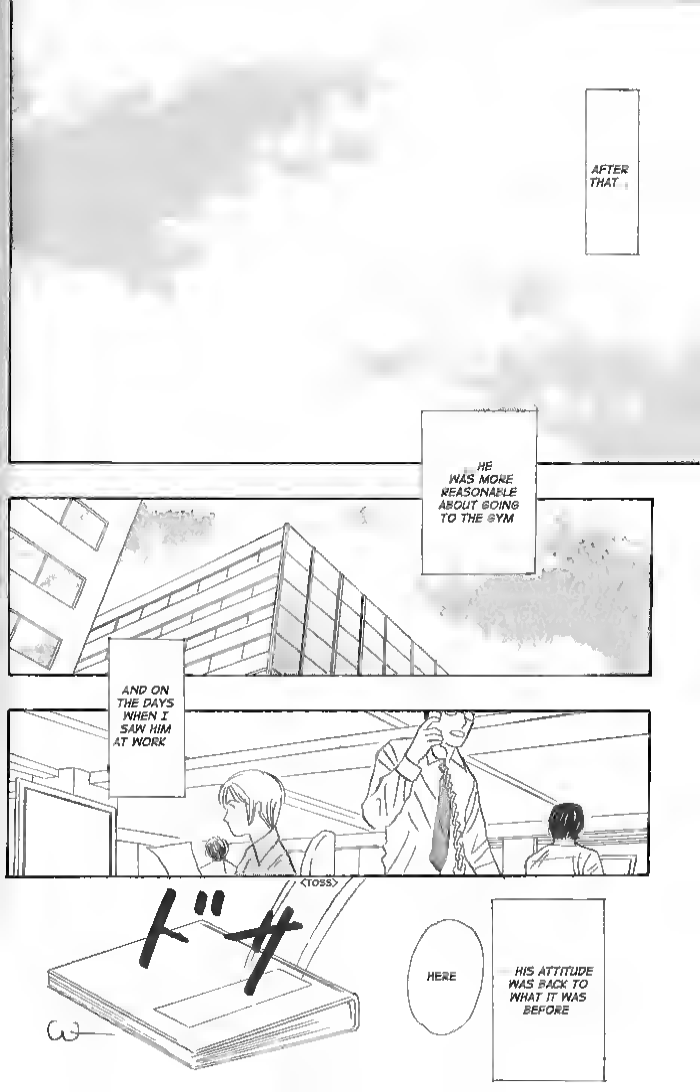

I CAN'T SEE VERY MANY THERE'S ONE TWO
TRUE THEY ARE UP THERE, THOUGH.
THERE ARE A LOT BEYOND THE SKY THAT CAN'T BE SEEN.
YOU'RE ROMANTIC, AREN'T YOU?
WHY? BECAUSE I'D LIKE TO SPEND ALL MY TIME STARGAZING?
BY YOURSELF?
.. NOT BY MYSELF
I'M GLAD
ABOUT WHAT I CAN SEE..



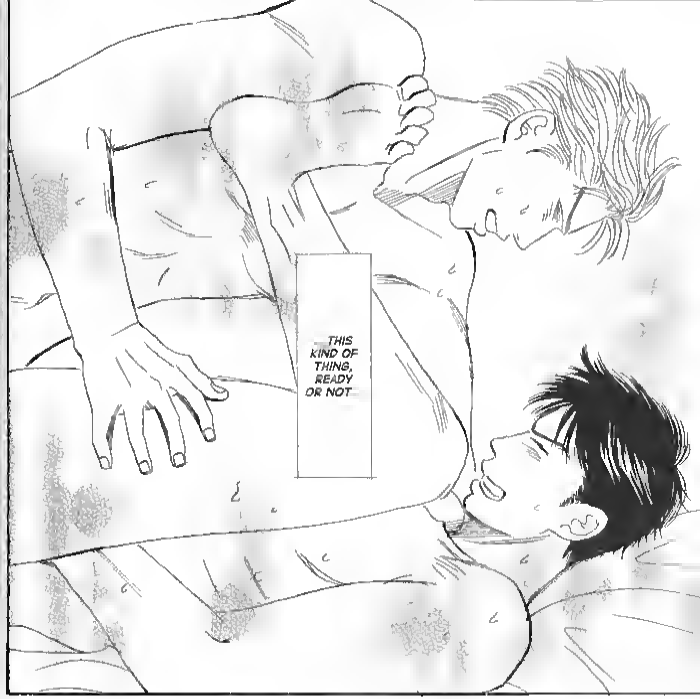

N-WELL... MAN ON MAN FOR...
JUST FOR RE-SEARCH, BUT
WHAT VIDEO?
SO I CAN BE AMAZING FOR YOU LIKE THE VIDEO I WATCHED
NOT LOSE WEIGHT, PUT ON SOME MUSCLE
I DON'T WANT YOU TO LOSE WEIGHT.
YOU, THAT IS.


TO PUT IT BLUNTLY, YOU SEEM LIKE A LAZY-ASS
YOU DON'T SEEM WILD AT ALL.
I MAY SEEM WILD, BUT TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH I'M JUST NORMAL.
I I ACTUALLY NEVER HAD MUCH SELF-CONFIDENCE WITH WOMEN
IT WAS LIKE SOMETHING FROM A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT WORLD


LIKE A WHAT THE HELL?
JUST LOOK-ING AT STARS...
AND MAYBE...
ENJOY-ING SOME PILLOW TALK.
I DON'T SEE ANY STARS AT ALL.
IT ACTUALLY LOOKS LIKE IT MIGHT RAIN.


AFTER THAT
HE WAS MORE REASONABLE ABOUT GOING TO THE GYM
AND ON THE DAYS WHEN I SAW HIM AT WORK
<TOSS>
HERE
HIS ATTITUDE WAS BACK TO WHAT IT WAS BEFORE


HEY,
COMING OVER TO MY PLACE TONIGHT?
<PAUSE>
YEAH, SANKYU, SANKYU
OH, YOU HAD THAT FILE? I WAS WONDERING WHERE IT WENT
AT LAST TO-NIGHT


THIS KIND OF THING, READY OR NOT


THE PLEASURES THAT TWO PEOPLE CAN ONLY ENJOY TOGETHER
ISN'T YOUR GUT GETTING FLABBY?
FIRST, LET'S GO GET SOMETHING TO EAT!

END

きっと恋に違いない

KITTO KOIN CHIGAINAI